



*"People
helping people
help
themselves"*

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
State of Indiana

DIVISION OF DISABILITY AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
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To: Consumers, providers, case managers, and stakeholders who support individuals with disabilities in Indiana

From: Peter A. Bisbecos, DDRS Director

Re: **Budget Modification Requests (BMR)**

Date: August 26, 2009

Reminder: Friday, March 13, 2009 the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's (FSSA) Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) suspended the rollout of the Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports (OASIS). The release of allocations under OASIS remains under temporary suspension until further notice and information will continue to be released as it becomes available.

The mission of the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) is to facilitate effective partnerships which enhance the quality of life for the people we serve in the community and pursuits of their choice. With strong leadership, we remain focused on supporting those we serve and committed to effective, efficient and successful stewardship of the state's financial resources.

Individuals and businesses alike are feeling the effects of our current economy, and government is no exception. The State of Indiana is challenged with making tough decisions so that we might avoid budget cuts and reductions in services happening across our nation. At the same time, we must balance our goals with fiscal responsibility.

DDRS is committed to providing continuity of care for our existing consumers and continuing efforts to bring people off our waiting list for waiver services. To continue being a leader and innovator of services to individuals with disabilities, we must make adjustments in how we do business and how we operate. The following pages outline some necessary changes we are making to ensure we are able to meet our goals and objectives.

We encourage you to review the following information and contact us through the Help Lines if you have questions.



BUDGET MODIFICATION REQUESTS

The Budget Modification Request (BMR) process began on April 1, 2009 to support consumers on the Developmental Disabilities (DD) and Autism (AU) waivers. The BMR process was put into place for consumers who experience circumstances where additional funds are needed for short-term, unanticipated situations (see chart below.) Each initial event may be approved for up to ninety (90) days. Under the current process, Support Teams have made contact with the IPMG Case Manager to submit a BMR when one of the following circumstances has occurred:

BMR Categories	Description
Life Changing Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of caregiver due to death or long-term incapacitation• Primary caregiver is age 80 or older• Waiver participant transitions from crisis management services and is unable to return to original setting• Waiver participant is a young adult who transitions from a secondary educational setting
Qualifying Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of a housemate due to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Death➤ Extended hospitalization of 14 or more days➤ Nursing Facility respite stay of 14 or more days,➤ Crisis intervention resulting in out of home placement of 14 or more days➤ Incarceration of 14 or more days➤ State substantiated abuse, neglect, exploitation➤ State intervention for behavioral needs➤ State intervention for health or medical needs➤ Housemate changes providers• Loss of employment• State substantiated abuse, neglect, exploitation• Behavioral needs requiring state intervention• Health and medical needs requiring state intervention
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in costs because of the implementation of Uniform Rates resulted in the consumer not being able to purchase the same level of service from the previous year

During these tough economic times, we must maximize the potential of every dollar so that we may serve the maximum number of people. With the ongoing suspension of OASIS, we have increased tracking and measurement of each area of our system to ensure we are effectively managing our fiscal resources and meeting the needs of each consumer we serve. The charts below show BMR usage by category and the impact of the BMR process on our system.

BMRs Processed by Category

BMR Category	In Process	Approved	Denied	Totals
Submitted April 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009				
Loss of care giver	1	5	2	8
Primary caregiver >80	0	1	1	2
Crisis Transition	2	4	0	6
Terminating secondary education	2	5	4	11
Loss of housemate	5	13	7	25
Loss of employment	1	3	2	6
Substantiated abuse/neglect/exploitation	0	0	0	0
State Intervention for Behavioral Support	2	11	3	16
State Intervention for Health and Medical	3	10	12	25
Other	27	300	90	417
Totals BMRs	43	352	121	516

***In Process** means that a BMR has been submitted to the state and is currently under review and/or is in request for more information (RFI).

Fiscal Impact of BMR Process

A Comparison of Other, Remaining Categories and Total Approved BMRs

Submitted April 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009

Month	Total # "Other" Category	Total \$ "Other" Category	Total # Remaining Categories	Total \$ Remaining Categories	Total # Approved BMR	Total \$ Approved BMR
April-09	29	\$148,680	8	\$143,639	37	\$292,319.28
May-09	49	\$358,902	7	\$78,866	56	\$437,767.86
Jun-09	102	\$612,053	18	\$158,709	120	\$770,762.07
Jul-09	120	\$695,225	19	\$251,238	139	\$946,462.35
Totals	300	\$1,814,860	52	\$632,452	352	\$2,447,311.56

***Other** category is defined as those BMR submitted because the implementation of the increased Uniform Rates resulted in the consumer not being able to purchase the same level of service from the previous year.

***Remaining** categories include all BMR categories except 'Other'. The individual categories with descriptions are listed on page 2.

The purpose of sharing the above data is that it shows why we must make immediate changes to the BMR process or risk creating a crisis in our system.

Effective as of September 1, 2009, only individuals with annual plan renewal dates in the months of August 2009, September 2009, and October 2009 will be permitted to submit a BMR using the 'Other' category. Plans that have renewal dates in November 2009 and December 2009 will not be allowed a BMR under the 'Other' category, as a result of the auto-conversion, which was a direct conversion of services listed on the service plan. *Please refer to the Bulletin: "Moving Individuals Receiving Waiver Services from Annual Plan to Uniform Rates" sent on July 6, 2009.*

Renewing BMRs

If short term support is still required, additional BMR's may be submitted on a month-to-month basis, not to exceed 180 days from the initial event. It is important to note that additional BMR requests after the initial approval will require extensive documentation as well as ongoing status reports. ***However; additional requests for BMRs under the "other" category will no longer be permitted after the current approved BMR expires.***

Support Teams must work together to address the individual's need and develop a long term plan within the individual's resources. Support Teams will be asked to submit these long term plans and objectives for all additional Budget Modification Requests.

Examples include:

- Documentation regarding the use of day programming vs. Residential Habilitation (RHS).
- If increased behaviors results in a BMR, there will be requests for documentation regarding changes to the behavior plan, staff trainings, etc.
- If the request is for increased RHS, requests will be made for documentation of how the team attempted to work within current resources as well as questions regarding day programming attendance if under 6 hours per day.

It is very important for consumers and providers to partner with us by seeking and discovering ways to share resources so that we can limit the number of additional changes we may need to make in the future. Consumers, families, providers, advocates, and other stakeholders must begin to seek innovative ways to manage their resources as well.

The State of Indiana is requesting that consumers, families, providers, advocates and other stakeholders seek innovative ways to manage their resources by seeking alternatives that are respectful, reasonable, and responsible such as:

- Shared staffing
- Shared living arrangements
- Electronic Monitoring Systems/Technology Services
- Assistive/Adaptive Technology
- Day Program Utilization

HELP LINE RESOURCES

Please direct any questions you may have to our Help Line Resources.

OASIS-ICAP Help Lines: (317) 234-5222 or 1-888-527-0008

Email: OASIS-ICAPHelp@fssa.in.gov

DDRS Website: www.ddrs.IN.gov

OASIS Bulletin Archive: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/3350.htm>

Consumer specific questions regarding your BMR, contact your case manager or the IPMG Help Line:

IPMG Toll Free Phone: 1-866-672-4764, extension 261

Website: www.gotoipmg.com

DDRS Mailing Address:

**MS-26 DDRS/OASIS ICAP-Help
402 W. Washington Street W451
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

Thank you.

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